

INSTRUCTIONAL CLASS



WELCOME

History, and Heritage of Wooster Nazarene

- Church started in 1928
- There have been 14 pastors
- Pastor Nathan has been serving since 1995
- This building is our 5th location
- Health Dept., Basement Church, South Campus on Oak Hill
- Started in a house beside the basement church on South and Walnut
- Basement church on Walnut that got completed into a full church (now health department)
- Health Dept. went in before South campus finished, so we moved into Parkview school
- South Campus
- Current Location on Oak Hill North

TELLING YOUR STORY

At Wooster Nazarene, we believe stories of personal transformation are important. Your personal experience becomes a part of our collective story as we follow Jesus together. As a church, we value you and how God has worked and is working in your life. Everybody take a minute and answer these three questions, and then we will have time for a few of you to share your story.

- 1. Where did you first learn about Jesus?
- 2. What has changed most in your life since meeting Jesus?
- 3. What brought you to Wooster Nazarene?



LOVING GOD, LOVING PEOPLE, LIVING TRANSFORMED

Mission answers... "What are we doing?"

LOVING GOD:

We love God because He loved us first. Our identity lies in the fact that we are loved by God.

Mark 12:30 (NLT): "and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength."

LOVING PEOPLE:

When we accept God's love for us and love him with all that is within us we cannot help but live to give his love away to people.

John 13:34-35 (NLT): "So now I am giving you a new commandment: love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

LIVING TRANSFORMED:

God's love for us becomes a transforming power in our lives. This transformation continues until we draw our first breath in heaven. We are in a constant state of living transformed.

Romans 12:2 (NLT): "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."



TRUTH, WORSHIP, PRAYER, KINDNESS, GENEROSITY

Values answers... "Why are we doing it?"

TRUTH:

We stand on the Truth of who God is and what He has said. God and truth are inseparable and so we must align our lives with His truth.

John 14:6 (NLT): "Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life.

No one can come to the Father except through me."

WORSHIP:

Worship means that God is our first and only! We are created to be worshipers of God by offering Him every part of our lives.

Matthew 4:10b (NLT): "You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him."

PRAYER:

Prayer is the catalyst that moves us from good ideas to God-ideas. It assures constant alignment with God's will.

<u>Philippians 4:6 (NLT):</u> "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done."

KINDNESS:

Kindness is a genuine work of God from the inside-out that makes us friendly, considerate, and teachable. As we live out kindness, we are consistent reflections of Jesus in our world.

Proverbs 19:22a (TLB): "Kindness makes a man attractive."

GENEROSITY:

Generosity is an attitude of the heart and a way of life. We constantly think and act generously as we invest in others.

<u>Proverbs 11:25 (NLT):</u> The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.



Strategy answers... "How are we doing it?"

GATHER:

We believe that meeting together regularly is important in the life of every believer. As we gather together corporately, connecting with God and others, we move forward in our spiritual journey in ways that we never could alone.

Acts 2:1 (NLT): "On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place."

LINK:

We join with people and gain a sense of belonging through genuine community. As we live in relationship with each other we find accountability, safety, and a sense of family.

<u>1 Peter 4:8 (NLT):</u> "most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins."

THRIVE:

Thrive is the abundant life experience of living in favor with God and people. As we offer ourselves back to God in daily worship, He fills us with His Spirit. This enables us to live out His good, pleasing, and perfect will in every area of life.

John 10:10 (TNIV): "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart."

Next Week in "My Place" we will dive into the last two questions: WHEN ARE WE SUCCESSFUL? WHERE IS GOD TAKING US?